

II. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (original) A carrier housing/processing apparatus comprising;
one or a plurality of carriers fixed or able to be fixed with chemical substances such as ligands; a carrier housing section which is provided with a fluid inlet/outlet and which accommodates said carrier; a drawing/discharging section which draws and discharge a fluid through said inlet/outlet with respect to said carrier housing section; and a transferring section which transfers said inlet/outlet relatively with respect to containers provided outside, wherein said carrier is formed in a size or a shape not allowing said carrier to pass through said inlet/outlet, and in a state of holding said carrier in said housing section, by self-weight of said carrier, frictional force between said carrier and the inner wall of said housing section, or remote force from outside with respect to said carrier, a fluid is drawn and discharged.
2. (original) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said carrier housing section has a large diameter section which accommodates said carrier and a small diameter section which has said inlet/outlet at the tip and has a smaller diameter enabling insertion into containers provided outside.
3. (original) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said carrier housing section has an opening having a size enabling said carrier to pass through, and said drawing/discharging section is provided with a nozzle which detachably connects with said opening,
and said carrier is formed in a size capable of passing through said opening but not capable of passing through said inlet/outlet.
4. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to either one of claims 1 and claim 3, wherein said carrier is; a particle having a larger diameter than said inlet/outlet, a block member having a shape not capable of passing through said inlet/outlet, a sheet member, a wire like member formed by bending in a predetermined size, or an indeterminate member.

5. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said plurality of carriers are a plurality of kinds.
6. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier is provided with an adhesion prevention section such as a projection, a ditch, a corrugated surface, for keeping said carrier from being adhered to the inner wall of said carrier housing section.
7. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier housing section is provided with an adhesion prevention section such as a projection, a ditch, a corrugated surface, for keeping from being adhered to said carrier.
8. (withdrawn) An carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier is; a member having through holes, a permeable membrane member, a porous member, or a mesh member, which is held at a predetermined position in said carrier housing section so as to divide and partition said carrier housing section into upper and lower spaces, and allow a fluid to pass therethrough.
9. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier is held at the bottom of said carrier housing section, which is a predetermined position, by self-weight, and carrier holding sections such as projections, ditches, corrugated surfaces are provided at the bottom so as to keep said carrier from blocking passage of said fluid.
10. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier housing section is formed from a translucent member, and a measuring apparatus which measures luminescence on said carrier is provided outside of said carrier housing section.

11. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein in said carrier housing section, a side face provided with said measuring equipment is formed in a plane.

12. (previously presented) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier contains a magnetic substance and said carrier is held in a predetermined position of said carrier housing section due to a magnetic field exerted from outside of said carrier housing section.

13. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carrier is a glass or its surface is coated with a glass.

14. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing method comprising;
a drawing/contacting step for, with respect to a housing section which accommodates one or a plurality of carriers fixed or able to be fixed with chemical substances such as ligands and has an inlet/outlet which enables a fluid to pass through but does not enable said carriers to pass through, drawing fluid through said inlet/outlet from external containers by a drawing/discharging section, to contact said carriers which are held in said carrier housing section by self-weight of said carrier, frictional force with the inner wall of said carrier housing section, or remote force from outside with respect to said carrier, with the drawn fluid; and
a discharging step for discharging only said fluid through said inlet/outlet by said drawing/discharging section, in a state where said carrier is accommodated in said carrier housing section.

15. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing method according to claim 14, further comprising a transferring step for transferring said inlet/outlet relatively with respect to containers provided outside.

16. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing method according to either one of claim 14 and claim 15, wherein said reaction step has a step for repeatedly drawing and discharging a fluid with respect to said carrier housing section.

17. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing method according to any one of claim 14 through claim 16, further comprising an accommodating step for accommodating said carrier in said carrier housing section from an opening having a size enabling said carrier to pass through.

18. (withdrawn) A carrier housing/processing method according to any one of claim 14 through claim 17, further comprising a removing step for removing said carrier from said carrier housing section through an opening having a size enabling said carrier provided in said carrier housing section to pass through.